



# **BEd in Languages**

**LNG 242 – Language Lab. Methods and Materials**

**University of Education, Winneba  
Department of Applied Linguistics**



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## Acknowledgements

The course instructor of LNG 242- Language Laboratory Methods and Materials wishes to thank the personality below for his contribution to this COURSE GUIDE

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## About this Course Guide

LNG 242 has been produced by The University of Education, Winneba. All Course Guide as produced by University of Education, Winneba are structured in the same way, as outlined below.

Students are introduced to the latest language laboratory technologies and materials. They are further assisted in evaluating the effectiveness of the materials. The course also requires school-based observation and participation beyond class time.

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## How this Course Guide is structured

### The course guide overview

This course gives you the skills in teaching audio-lingual activities

The course overview gives you a general introduction to the course. Information contained in the course overview will help you determine:

- If the course is suitable for you, register online with the Department's officer
- What you will already need to know. You will be required to pass all basic LNG courses
- How much time you will need to invest to complete the course.
- The overview also provides guidance on:

What you can expect from the course.

- Study skills.
- Where to get help.
- Course assignments and assessments.
- Lessons



We strongly recommend that you read the overview *carefully* before starting your study.

## The course content

The course is broken down into lessons. Each lesson comprises:

- An introduction to the lesson content.
- Lesson Objectives or outcomes .
- New terminologies.
- Core content of the lesson with a variety of learning activities.
- A lesson summary.
- Assignments and/or assessments, as applicable.

More specifically, you will cover the following lessons

- The Language Laboratory
- Types of Installations: Conventional, Remote and classroom
- Laboratory Construction: Space and Installation
- Magnetic Recording: Tapes, Channels and Speeds
- Tape Library and Student Routine
- Laboratory Administration: Personnel, Duties and Operations
- Audio lingual Exercises: Linguistic Stimulus-Response Mechanisms
- Pattern Drills: Types and Uses
- Classroom and Laboratory: Interrelation of Procedures
- Graphic Skills: Reading and Writing Objectives
- Monitoring and Testing: Remedial and Evaluative Techniques
- Modern Trends: Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL)

## Recommended Text

Stack, Edward M. (1971). The Language Laboratory and Modern Language Teaching. Oxford University Press.



## Course Requirements

- Three quizzes
- Language Lab. Practicals
- A Term Paper (to be discussed in class)
- End of Semester Exams

## Resources

For those interested in learning more on this subject, we provide you with a list of additional resources at the end of this Course Guide these may be books, articles or web sites.

## Your comments

After completing course we would appreciate it if you would take a few moments to give us your feedback on any aspect of this course. Your feedback might include comments on:

- Course content and structure.
- Course reading materials and resources.
- Course assignments.
- Course assessments.
- Course duration.
- Course support (assigned tutors, technical help, etc.)

Your constructive feedback will help us to improve and enhance this course.





## Course overview

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### Welcome to LNG 242- Language Laboratory Methods and Materials

This is a course that is to help students learn basic skills in teaching audio-lingual aspects of language.

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### Course outcomes

Upon completion of this course you will be able to:



Outcomes

- Acquire language laboratory technologies
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the materials used for this course
- Teach audio-lingual skills effectively

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### Time frame



How long?

Fourteen weeks



# Lesson 4 – Laboratory Construction: Space and Installation

Upon completion of this lesson you will be able to:



Outcomes

- Identify the different places that help in running and maintaining a lang. lab.



Terminology

TERMINOLOGIES	EXPLANATION
The Laboratory	Ideally, the console should be 8 feet wide; the booth should be 3.5 feet wide and 6 feet deep; and the aisle 3.5 feet wide on either side of the booth area.
Tape Library	The tape library is a storage space for materials used by the students in the library-type laboratory and perhaps for masters
Recording studio	This is a separate room for making master recordings, both of drill material and of test and examinations
Maintenance Room.	This is an additional room designated for the repair and cleaning of mechanical and electronic equipment, storage of blank tapes and tape processing



## SPACE FOR THE LABORATORY

A conventional language laboratory requires more space per student than an ordinary classroom because of equipment, special furniture and auxiliary facilities which contribute to its efficiency and usefulness. The optimum size for a conventional lab is one that will accommodate the largest regular language class in the school. This averages between 30 and 40.

If the school calls for more than one class to be in the lab at a time, it is advisable to install two or more 30-position labs. Monitoring and maintaining class discipline are easier in smaller labs. In short, class size determines the lab size

Good teaching practice indicates that continuity of effort is necessary in learning a skill. All things being equal, therefore, students should work in the lab every day. Long contact with the material is preferred to short contacts.

## THE LABORATORY

A conventional lab contains booth space, aisle space and console space. Further space may be required for storage (tapes, projectors) and for auxiliary rooms such as a recording studio, tape library, and maintenance room. Ideally, the console should be 8 feet wide; the booth should be 3.5 feet wide and 6 feet deep; and the aisle 3.5 feet wide on either side of the booth area.

Consideration should be given to placing the teacher's console on a platform at the rear of the laboratory. This enables the teacher to observe all students for maintenance of discipline, eliminates any need for transparent booth fronts, and facilitates operation of a projector from the teacher's post at the console. (In the lab, the teacher is not the centre of attention).



## **TAPE LIBRARY**

The tape library is a storage space for materials used by the students in the library-type laboratory and perhaps for masters.

Shelves should be constructed around the walls and should be of a dimension appropriate for the tapes used. The door to the tape library may be used also as an issue window by using a “Dutch” or split door fitted with a counter.

Provide a table or counter inside the library for laboratory assistants to use in the labelling tapes, etc.

## **RECORDING STUDIO**

This is a separate room for making master recordings, both of drill material and of test and examinations. The room should be sound proofed to exclude extraneous noises such as passing trucks, playground noises and slamming doors so that recordings will be of professional quality. The space for recording instruments must be separated from the studio proper where the speakers would be located by a sound proof window.

The interior of the studio should be lined with acoustical tiles or hung with course drapes. The floor should be cork tile or deep pile carpeting. An intercom between the studio and the instrument room is necessary. The loudspeaker should be installed in the ceiling or wall of the studio and wired so that no feedback occurs. Microphone jacks are fitted in the wall under the double window

## **MAINTENANCE ROOM**

This is an additional room designated for the repair and cleaning of mechanical and electronic equipment, storage of blank tapes and tape



processing. There should be shelves and a workbench with electric outlets. Lab assistants may use this room for labelling tapes, splicing on leaders and bulk erasing.



## Unit summary



### Summary

A lang. lab. requires more space per student in order that everyone will have enough space to work freely without any obstacles.